

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4 through 11 and 14 through 16 are pending in this Application. Claims 1, 5 and 16 have been amended to address formalistic issues noted by the Examiner. Applicants submit that the present Amendment does not generate any new matter issue.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 1, 5 and 16 identifying perceived informalities. In response claims 1, 5 and 16 have been amended consistent with the Examiner's courteous suggestions. Accordingly, withdrawal of the claim objections is solicited.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7 through 10, 11 and 14 through 16 were provisionally rejected on the ground of double patenting of the obviousness type over claims 5 through 8 of copending Application No. 10/754,630 (the '630 Application).

Claim 6 was provisionally rejected on the ground of double patenting of the obviousness type over claims 5 through 8 of the '630 Application in view of Stein.

Each of the above provisional rejections is traversed. Submitted herewith is a terminal disclaimer with respect to the '630 Application, thereby overcoming the provisional rejections on the ground of double patenting of the obviousness type. Accordingly, withdrawal of the provisional rejections on the ground of double patenting of the obviousness type is solicited.

Based upon the foregoing it should be apparent that the imposed objection and rejections have been overcome, and that all pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable consideration is, therefore, solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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